

Dear SIC Members and Supporters:

This issue of *SIC Clips & Quips* (Volume 5, Issue 5) is sent to call attention to information of special interest to School Improvement Councils, their members, and other stakeholders

It's Not Too Late To Report Your SIC Membership Information – While the statutory deadline for reporting 2012-13 local SIC membership information to the SC-SIC office through the online SC-SIC Member Network was **November 15**, it's not too late to report this information. If they have not already done so, account users will have to update their log-in and password information for the current school year. Directions for this are available on the SC-SIC Member Network site accessible through <http://sic.sc.gov>, or by contacting SC-SIC Digital and Web Director Claudia Wolverton by email at wolverto@mailbox.sc.edu. Also, if your school is a new or re-organized school not listed in the SC-SIC Member Network, email Ms. Wolverton to assist you in getting your SIC established in the database.

Schedule SIC Trainings In Your District – The fall semester of each school year is typically the busiest SC-SIC training season, but SIC trainings are conducted across the state throughout the year. If you haven't yet scheduled an SIC Basics, SIC Leadership & Advocacy or other training in your district, please consider doing so now. Whether it's training conducted by one of our certified SIC District Contacts or district-wide training provided by SC-SIC staff, such sessions are vital to new and more seasoned SIC members so that they can know more about their roles and responsibilities to their school communities. Schedule your training today as the training schedule can fill up quickly! For more on SIC training opportunities visit the SC-SIC website at <http://sic.sc.gov> and click on the "Training and Resources" tab.

State EOC Seeking Parents For Stakeholder Group - The SC Education Oversight Committee (EOC) is responsible for reviewing state accountability relative to education. The EOC will be convening a stakeholder group to include four parents, with at least one of those individuals being the parent of a special needs child. Diversity of these parents representing various parts of the state is vital. The group will be examining and discussing educational measurement, as well as determining the goals and outcomes of the state's education accountability systems. Ultimately, the group will be considering how these accountability systems can foster innovation and accelerate the current rate of student performance statewide. Details of time and travel have not yet been finalized, but it is reasonable to assume that the group will convene at least three times in Columbia. If you are a parent interested in serving on this stakeholder group, please contact EOC Executive Director Melanie Barton, mbarton@eoc.sc.gov, by **January 2, 2013**. In your email, please provide Ms. Barton with your name and home address.

2013 Children's Mental Health Awareness Week Poster Contest Deadline Extended - The deadline for the 2013 Children's Mental Health Awareness Week Poster Contest, hosted by the Federation of Families of South Carolina, has been extended to Friday, December 14. Now in its fifth year, this contest is held to educate and create awareness of the importance of identifying and treating mental/behavioral health problems in children and adolescents. The slogan for 2013 Children's Mental Health Awareness Week, to be held May 5-11, 2013, is "Children's Mental Health Awareness, Because ALL Kids Matter!" Classes and other groups of children or youth interested in participating can obtain information and submission criteria online at www.fedfamsc.org. The winning artwork that best supports the 2013 slogan and is selected by online voting in early January will receive a \$100 prize. Questions? Contact Federation of Families of SC Executive Director Diane Flashnick at (803) 772-5210 or diane.flashnick@fedfamsc.org.

For Midlands Area Parents Of Rising Juniors and Seniors - Midlands Middle College, an established, successful educational program, will open as a South Carolina Public Charter School in the Fall of 2013. Applications are now available online at www.midlandsmiddlecollege.com and will be accepted through March 15, 2013. Midlands Middle College invites applications from rising 11th and 12th grade students who are seeking a fresh academic start in a small setting which provides opportunity for students to complete high school requirements and begin college classes. Midlands Middle College is located on the Airport Campus of Midlands Technical College. For more information, contact Amy Graham at (803) 822-7043 or amygraham@midlandsmiddlecollege.com.

Remember, *SIC Clips & Quips* is sent to all SIC members and supporters who share their email addresses with us. Please feel free to print out and share this information with fellow SIC members who may not have received it. We are here to help you, so please contact us any time!

Tom

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"Civic Engagement in Public Education"

